

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing the reflection mirror. Applicants submit a proposed corrected drawings that adds numeral 15 to Fig. 4 to illustrate the reflection mirror, and amend the specification accordingly.

The Draftperson objected to the top margin of Fig. 11. Applicants will submit formal drawings which will obviate the remaining objection in the near future, upon the Examiner's approval of the proposed correction for Fig. 4, submitted herewith.

Regarding the § 112, paragraph 2, rejections of claims 1 and 10, Applicants have amended the claims to address each point of rejection raised by the Examiner. Applicants amend claim 1, line 21, to change "port" to "portion", as the Examiner suggested, and amend claim 10 to improve readability. Although the word cited by the Examiner is not changed in claim 10, changes to the surrounding language are believed to obviate the Examiner's objection. Applicants believe that the claims now clearly identify the subject matter of the invention.

Claims 1-5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the following four combinations of references:

- A. U.S. Patent 5,536,174 to Forish (herein "Forish") alone, or in view of U.S. Patent 3,604,919 to MacPherson (herein "MacPherson"), U.S. Patent 5,941,633 to Saito et al. (herein "Saito"), and Unexamined Japanese Patent Publication Hei. 6-275117 (herein "JP '117").
- B. Unexamined Japanese Patent Publication Hei. 6-11206 (herein "JP '206") alone or taken in view of MacPherson, Forish, Saito, and JP '117.
- C. MacPherson in view of Saito, Forish, JP '117, and JP '206.

Applicants amend base claim 1 to more clearly define the claimed invention. As amended, Applicants assert that the claimed invention is readily distinguishable from the applied references, and is not obvious.

With regard to Forish, the Examiner alleged that the housing 40 and backplate 60 of figures 1 and 4 are socket mounting portions similar to those of the present invention. As amended, claim 1 now recites that the socket mounting portion is formed as a shaped surface of the lamp body, which is neither taught nor suggested by Forish. *See* Forish, column 4, lines 15-25.

With regard to MacPherson, the Examiner alleges that it would have been obvious to use wires in grooves like those of MacPherson 20, to be engaged by contact springs 60, 62. MacPherson teaches a removable lamp assembly 12 that removeably inserts into a socket 14. Socket 14 is permanently fastened to a body. The body includes grooves which provide a channel for reaching the socket 14 and contact springs 60, 62. However, socket 14 is permanently bonded to the housing, and it is to this socket that the lamp assembly electrically connects. *See* MacPherson, column 5, lines 6-19. As amended, claim 1 now requires a direct connection between the removable socket and the conductors in the grooves, which is a feature not suggested by MacPherson.

With regard to JP '206, Applicants amend the claims to narrow the definition of "conductors." Claim 1 is amended to recite "wire-like conductors." Claim 2, which recited

“wire-like conductors” as a limitation on claim 1, is cancelled. Claim 6 is rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of claim 1, from which it previously depended.

As originally worded, the generic “conductors” of claim 1 arguably read on the multi-part, custom formed conductors of JP ‘206, comprising bulb socket contact 4 and band-like conductor 3. Applicants respectfully submit that the simplicity of the conductors of the claimed invention, and their use as electrical contacting surfaces, constitute inventive subject matter that is clearly distinguished from JP ‘206, as the design requires fewer parts than the applied references, and allows the substitution inexpensive materials such as wire for more expensive customized parts, such as the bulb socket contact 4 in JP ‘206.

The remaining references are applied only in combination with the above references for specific limitations. Saito is cited for the use of a reflection mirror. JP ‘117 is cited for using wiring ribs.

Applicants submit that the applied references, either individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the features of the claimed inventions. Within the prior art of record, there is no teaching or even suggestion of modifying the applied references in the manner necessary to form the disclosed inventions. Accordingly, there is absolutely no motivation whatsoever for one of ordinary skill to consider such modifications to the designs of the applied references, absent acquiring knowledge of the efficient design presented in the present application. Such impermissible hindsight reconstruction is improper.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/187,089

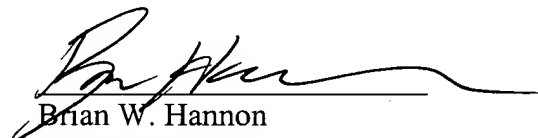
As claim 6 "defines unobviously over the prior art," presumably claim 6 is allowable in independent form as amended. Likewise, claims 7-9, which depends from claim 6, are also presumed to be allowable. Applicants add new claim 11, which corresponds to claim 10, but depends from claim 6 instead of claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

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